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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE DISTR. 1 June 1951

SUBJECT Difficulties at the Building Site  
of the Wismar Shipyard

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1. The reconstruction of the Wismar Shipyard in the area of the western harbor of Wismar is based on a decision by the SMA, Germany. It rejected two projected sites for the reconstruction, one at Redentin, and the second one 3 km north northeast of Wismar. The SMA preferred the former airfield at Dornier. German authorities did not favor this site as they feared that the site was unsuitable for building.
2. The sheds and other buildings have settled as much as 50 mm because of the marshy subsoil. Some of the binding stones and floors of Workshop I and II have settled as much as 20 to 120 mm; the plant police building as much as 160 mm, and the roads of the shipyard in front of Workshops I and II as much as 600 mm at two different times. : total of 300,000 eastmarks were appropriated for additional machinery foundations for Workshop I.
3. Another factor which has made construction difficult and expensive has been the shortage of reinforcing steel and 35-meter piles. The entire pier had been built without corrugated steel, and supports had to be sunk to a depth of 60 meters. Although the emphasis was on meeting the completion dates rather than on good workmanship, the work was only 87 percent complete in mid-January 1951. Since the new construction of the slips and piers has already been discontinued, it is now believed unlikely that the shipyard will be able to participate in the program to build motor vessels.

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